

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing apparatus and method in which moving picture part data, which is used as a moving picture frame, and remaining difference data is  
5 generated from the data of a still picture frame, and the moving picture part data is used conjointly for reproducing the moving picture frame and the still picture frame, thereby making it possible to  
10 efficiently encode image data in which a still picture frame of a quality higher than that of a moving picture frame is mixed in moving picture data composed of successive moving picture frames.